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Message Text

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21
ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01

DODE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02

L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /102 W
---------- 044301
O R 141030Z JUN 75
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3749
INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

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PASS U.N.P. FOR HEWITT, LABOR FOR SEGALL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ILO, PORG, CI, PLO
SUBJECT: ILO CONFERENCE: CHILE RESOLUTION

REF: GENEVA 4492

1. RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE IN MEETING JUNE 13 QUICKLY DISPOSED OF AMENDMENTS TO RESOLUTION ON CHILE SUBMITTED BY A NUMBER OF EMPLOYER MEMBERS (REFTEL). THESE AMENDMENTS, WHICH WOULD HAVE SOFTENED SUBSTANTIALLY ORIGINAL RESOLUTION, WERE STRONGLY OPPOSED BY WORKERS GROUP, AND FOUND NO SUPPORT AMONG GOVERNMENT MEMBERS. FACED WITH THIS SITUATION, THE EMPLOYER MEMBERS WITHDREW THE AMENDMENTS.

2. OPPOSITION TO EMPLOYER AMENDMENTS BY GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES BASED LARGELY ON ARGUMENT THAT THE RESOLUTION UNDERSCORED THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION IN CHILE REGARDING TRADE UNION AND HUMAN RIGHTS AS REVEALED IN THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION, AND EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO KEEP PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE TO MOVE QUICKLY
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TO SATISFY THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION REPORT.

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THE REPRESENTATIVES OF FRANCE, THE NORDIC COUNTRIES AND BELGIUM WERE PARTICULARLY ACTIVE IN THE DEBATE, ARGUING THAT NO AMENDMENTS SHOULD BE ADOPTED WHICH WOULD WATER DOWN THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION. LATIN AMERICAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE GENERAL DEBATE.

3. DUE TO GENERAL LACK OF INTEREST IN A LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER, AND THE DESIRE OF THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY TO VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION (THERE BEING NO OTHER AMENDMENTS), THE CHAIRMAN PROCEEDED TO PUT THE RESOLUTION TO A VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS. UP TO THIS POINT IT WAS GENERALLY ASSUMED THAT THE RESOLUTION WOULD BE EASILY ADOPTED, IN VIEW OF THE LACK OF SUPPORT FOR THE EMPLOYER AMENDMENTS AND THAT ALL GOVERNMENT AND WORKER REPRESENTATIVES TAKING PART IN THE DEBATE HAD SUPPORTED THE RESOLUTION. HOWEVER, IT HAD GONE UNNOTICED THAT WORKER REPRESENTATIVES HAD BEEN SLIPPING AWAY; THE GOVERNMENT BENCHES WERE ALSO GETTING THIN. WHEN THE VOTE WAS COUNTED, IT WAS DISCOVERED TO THE HORROR OF THE WORKERS THAT THE RESOLUTION HAD NOT BEEN ADOPTED FOR LACK OF QUORUM. THE VOTE (WEIGHTED) WAS 85,043 IN FAVOR, 4,705 AGAINST, AND 45,601 ABSTENTIONS. SLIGHTLY MORE THAN HALF OF THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE PRESENT WHEN THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, AND IT WOULD HAVE REQUIRED THE VOTES OF ONLY FOUR MORE WORKER REPRESENTATIVES FOR A QUORUM TO HAVE BEEN REACHED.

4. A MOTION WAS MADE FOR A ROLL CALL VOTE, BUT A PROCEDURAL WRANGLE DEVELOPED ON THE QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE ROLL CALL VOTE SHOULD PROCEED IMMEDIATELY OR COULD BE PUT OFF UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE. UNABLE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON THIS QUESTION, THE CHAIRMAN ABRUPTLY ADJOURNED THE MEETING. THIS MEANS THAT THE ROLL CALL VOTE WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE RESOLUTION AS ORIGINALLY DRAFTED AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON MONDAY, JUNE 16.

5. FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH LA DELEGATIONS PRESENT (ARGENTINA, BRAZIL, CHILE AND COLOMBIA) US GOVERNMENT REPRESENTAIVE ABSTAINED AS DID THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE FOUR COUNTRIES ON THE VOTE BY SHOW OF HANDS.

6. IN DISCUSSING MATTER WITH CHILEAN DELEGATION, US GOVERNMENT
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REP TOOK OCCASION TO REQUEST EXPLANATION OF CHILEAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES VOTE ON PLO ISSUE (GOVT. REPS VOTED CONSISTENTLY IN FAVOR OF GRANTING OBSERVER STATUS TO PLO). CHILEAN REP STATED HE WOULD REQUEST AND PROVIDE US REP WITH HIS GOVERNMENT'S VIEW ON THIS QUESTION.

7. DEPT. WILL REMEMBER THAT USDEL WENT TO GREAT LENGTH TO BE OF ASSISTANCE TO CHILEAN GOVT. DURING 1974 ILO CONFERENCE.

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IN VIEW CHILEAN GOVT. VOTE ON AN ISSUE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO
THE US DURING THIS CONFERENCE--THE GRANTING OF OBSERVER
STATUS TO THE PLO--AND THE SOLID SUPPORT OF WE'S FOR THE
RESOLUTION ON CHILE, DEPT. MAY WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER USDEL
SHOULD VOTE IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION IN RECORD VOTE IN COMMITTEE
AND IN PLENARY SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE. IT ALSO SHOULD BE
NOTED THAT IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH US REP SOME WE REPS
WHO VOTED WITH US ON PLO ISSUE HAVE URGED THAT THE US
VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE RESOLUTION AS A CLEAR INDICATION OF US
CONSISTENCY IN SUPPORTING THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS REGARDLESS
OF WHERE VIOLATIONS OCCUR. ON THE OTHER HAND, USDEL ALSO

APPRECIATES THAT CHILEAN POSTURE ON PLO ISSUE WAS RELATED
TO ITS EFFORTS TO GAIN SOME SUPPORT FOR THE MODIFICATION OF
THE TEXT OF THE CHILEAN RESOLUTION WHICH CONFORMED MORE
CLOSELY WITH THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
REPORT OF THE FACT FINDING AND CONCILIATION COMMISSION AND
THE TERMS OF THE MAY 1975 GOVERNING BODY DECISION ON
THAT REPORT. USDEL BELIEVES THIS FACTOR SHOULD ALSO BE
CONSIDERED IN RELATION TO A DECISION ON THE VOTING POSITION USDEL
SHOULD TAKE IN COMMITTEE AND PLENARY SITTINGS ON THE UNAMENDED
CHILEAN RESOLUTION.

8. INSTRUCTIONS REQUESTED AT LATEST AT LATEST BY 8:00 AM GENEVA TIME
ON MONDAY, JUNE 16 IN VIEW 9:30 AM MEETING WITH CHILEAN
DELEGATION AND 10:00 AM RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE VOTE ON THAT
DAY. DALE

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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